

REMARKS

Claims 8-12 and 18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended and claims 1-7, 13-17 and 19-21 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiners Khan and Ho at the interview held on December 5, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

In the Office Action, the specification is objected to for allegedly not being descriptive. Applicant has amended the title of the invention to clearly indicate the invention to which the claims are directed. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 8-9, 11 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iida, U.S. Patent No. 7,230,642 in view of Bilhorn, U.S. Patent No. 5,173,748; claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iida in view of Bilhorn and Heinz, U.S. Patent No. 2,987,959; and claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Iida in view of Bilhorn and Examiner's Official Notice. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

During the personal interview, Examiners Khan and Ho agreed that Iida does not disclose a judging means for shooting certain conditions of an object based on the comparison result of the comparing means, as recited in independent claims 8 and 18. Moreover, it was agreed upon that Iida fails to teach use of an ultraviolet light detecting element on both sides of a taking lens.

Iida is directed at a photographic environmental light textural distribution detector that acquires textural distribution data of photographic environmental light upon photographing an object image, and an observation environmental light spectral distribution detector that acquires those of environmental light used upon observing a reproduced image (Abstract and

col. 1, lines 9-46). Iida does not judge shooting conditions of an object based on ultraviolet light detected on both sides of the taking lens. Instead, the Examiners agreed that Iida is not concerned with ultraviolet light and uses a rear detector after the image has been taken for observation of a reproduced image signal. Thus, Iida fails to disclose all of the features of independent claims 8 and 18.

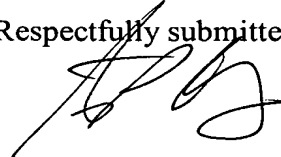
During the personal interview, Examiners Khan and Ho further agreed that Bilhorn fails to overcome the deficiencies of Iida with respect to independent claims 8 and 18. The Office Action relies on Col. 1, lines 13-25 of Bilhorn for the feature of using an ultraviolet light detecting element. Bilhorn discloses a spectrometer using a CCD array in the time delay integration mode for improving the detection and measurements of spectra. However, Examiners Khan and Ho agreed that the spectrometer in Bilhorn is not combinable with Iida because it is not concerned with shooting conditions or the use of detection of ultraviolet light on both sides of the lens. Thus, Bilhorn fails to disclose a first and second ultraviolet light detecting element disposed on both lens taking sides of the image shooting apparatus, or judging shooting conditions based on a comparison of ultraviolet light detected by the first and second detectors as recited in independent claims 8 and 18.

Therefore, independent claims 8 and 18 are patentably distinct from Iida and Bilhorn. Heinz and Official Notice fail to overcome the deficiencies of Iida and Bilhorn. Claims 9-12 are allowable for their dependence on independent claim 8 and for the additional features recited therein. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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